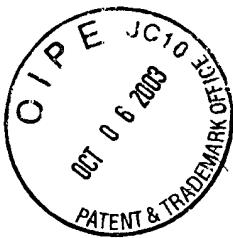


PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/746,496
Applicant : John K. Walton et al.
Filed : December 21, 2000
T.C./A.U. : 2133
Examiner : Phung M. Chung

Confirmation No. : 9763 11/6/03
SC
#7B

Docket No. : EMC2-087PUS
Customer No. : 022494

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, T.C./A.U. 2133 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

10/3/03
Date of Signature
and Mail Deposit

By: Judith C. Tarrant
Judith C. Tarrant

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
T.C./A.U. 2133
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 3, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Application No.: 09/746,496
Response dated October 3, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 3, 2003

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.